

Washington, D.C. Today, the Committee of 100 acts as a force of conscience in the evolution of the nation's capital city, engaging in the planning processes for the development of significant large sites in the District, including the Southwest Waterfront, St. Elizabeths, Walter Reed and the McMillan Reservoir.

For 90 years the Committee of 100 has continued to work to ensure that what is built—or not built—in the nation's capital reflects the historical significance of the District and its diverse, growing population. We appreciate the Committee 100 for its long presence in the District and its continued service to the ever-changing landscape of the District, and we wish them many more years of outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 90th anniversary of Committee of 100 on the Federal City.

FULL HMTF UTILIZATION RESOLUTION

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, our ports are a vital part of our nation's economy. They move more than 2.3 billion tons of cargo a year in the United States, generating economic activity that touches every Congressional district in the country.

Our ports are more than just gateways, they are engines—for the economy and for jobs.

Unfortunately, our nation's ports and harbors are severely under-dredged and under-maintained. According to a recent report by the American Association of Port Authorities, full channel dimensions are available less than 35% of the time.

We need to keep our ports strong. And so in 1986, we came up with a way to fund strong, fully dredged and well maintained ports and harbors, by assessing a tax on the goods imported through U.S. ports. That Harbor Maintenance Tax collects roughly \$1.6 billion a year: plenty of money to keep our ports and harbors the best in the world.

Yet as our ports suffer from historic under-dredging and lack of investment, we continue to spend only half of the funds we collect with the Harbor Maintenance Tax on maintaining our harbors.

We have an \$8 billion dollar surplus sitting in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. That's outrageous.

When our ports have such a clear need, when we have such a desperate need for the jobs that the work of dredging and modernizing our ports would create, it is scandalous that we will not fully utilize the funds we have collected for that very purpose.

I am introducing this resolution because we need to fully utilize the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. The wind in Congress is shifting, and I believe that we will pass legislation to achieve that. The Army Corps of Engineers needs to prepare to put people to work fixing our ports the day after the President signs that bill into law.

A TRIBUTE TO THE IOWA ELK'S ASSOCIATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the great work of the Iowa Elk's Association for their efforts to make the reunion of Marine Sergeant Ross Gundlach and his former combat partner, a yellow Labrador named Casey, a reality. Their dedication to this great event has truly changed two deserving lives.

In Afghanistan, Sergeant Gundlach and Casey were deployed on more than 125 missions to detect and clear suspicious packages along military convoy routes. Sergeant Gundlach and Casey's great work no doubt saved American lives as they were able to detect improvised explosive devices along the road and contain them before they could harm US Marines aboard the convoy. As their tour of duty concluded, Sergeant Gundlach made a promise to Casey he would do everything in his power to find her and care for her when they returned to America.

Upon returning home, Sergeant Gundlach, a Wisconsin native, was able to locate Casey, who had been acquired to continue her work detecting bombs in Iowa on behalf of the State Fire Marshal's Office. He reached out to Casey's new handler via email in an attempt to adopt Casey, often relaying photographs and stories of their service together. Unfortunately, hope for a reunion looked dim as the State Fire Marshal's Office would require \$8,500 to acquire a replacement dog equipped to inspect venues for explosives should Casey's position be vacated.

To make this reunion happen, the Iowa Elk's Association, a fraternal organization with a proud history of assisting our veterans, graciously donated the full sum required to the State of Iowa to purchase a new explosive detection K-9. Governor Terry Branstad accepted the gift request and Sergeant Gundlach was unknowingly invited to Iowa under the pretense he would have to present his case for the adoption of Casey to a bureaucratic state board. Instead, the Iowa Elk's generosity supported a heartwarming surprise ceremony in Iowa's Capitol to formally reunite this remarkable veteran and his faithful companion after 333 days of separation. The selfless efforts of the Governor's Office, the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Iowa Elk's Association left few dry eyes as Casey greeted her old friend and new adoptive parent.

Mr. Speaker, in an increasingly chaotic and unpredictable world, it can seem good news is harder and harder to come by. Yet, the actions of the Iowa Elk's Association and the State of Iowa as a whole to do the right thing in such a remarkable fashion is a testament to our state and nation's innate optimism and gratitude to our servicemembers. It is with great pride that I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking all those involved in this heartwarming event and wishing both Sergeant Gundlach and his dog Casey a long and happy future as the friends they have been from day one.

CONGRATULATING NOREEN SALAH BURPEE

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Noreen Salah Burpee on winning the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Ms. Burpee is an outstanding member of our community, and I am proud to represent her in Florida's 22nd District.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor recognizes American immigrants who make extraordinary contributions to the community, and Ms. Burpee has certainly earned this distinction. As the executive director of The Salah Foundation, she helps distribute millions of dollars to small nonprofits nationwide, while helping those nonprofits maximize their funds and fulfill their missions. Many of the Salah Foundation's beneficiaries are right here in Palm Beach and Broward Counties. For example, she worked with nonprofit Broward Health Systems, helping them mobilize more than \$1 million to improve cancer-treatment facilities and marketing efforts.

In honor of her Ellis Island Medal of Honor, I am proud to recognize Noreen Salah Burpee for her amazing achievements and wish her continued success in her endeavors.

HONORING DICK WEAVER FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Memorial Day 2013, I hope that everyone spends some time this holiday to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve our nation's freedoms. We also need to thank those who serve today in harm's way for their dedication to the ideals and principles that made this country great.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell the story of one such man who performed heroic feats on the battlefield, and thankfully, is still with us today so that we may honor him for his service. That man is named C.W. (Dick) Weaver, Jr., and he lives in the Sixth District of North Carolina.

Dick Weaver is a man who was destined to receive honors for his leadership ability in many aspects of his life. He graduated in 1951 from Rankin High School in Guilford County, North Carolina, where he was Valedictorian and President of the Senior Class. As an athlete at Rankin, he was All Conference for two years in baseball and football. He then attended Lees McRae Junior College until he became a United States Marine. Dick was shipped overseas to join the Korean Conflict.

On March 28, 1953, Sergeant Weaver was subject to devastating enemy artillery fire. The unit received word that one of the men had been wounded and was lying helpless and unprotected. Under heavy artillery fire, Sergeant Weaver rushed to the stricken man and carried him to cover. He was painfully injured in his heroic act of courage. Sergeant Weaver, by his outstanding leadership, indomitable